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Anglo Saxon

**Mid Term**

**Question 2:**

Back in the 10th centuary civilization was at the very root, the foundation of literature that which gave color to that period of time. My belief is that the writer deliberately wrote this poem with an allegorical meaning because there is to many hints that reference to the bible. The bible was perhaps the most valued and renowned book in the market at the time. Additionally the theme of the poems sends a similar message to the ones written in the bible. Some of these animals are not native to the land and they are given qualities that are more religious than mystical. Aside from this they pertain many references that appear in the bible. The poem of the Panther for instance talks about the “evil” dragon, connecting it with religion almost instantly. Very early in the poem, we are portrayed this image of a peaceful animal named Panther who seeks peace and unity. In contrast to the “evil” creature the “dragon” who is venomous. The dragon is portrayed as an animal that is unwanted and dangerous. The panther in the other hand is a noble character who is meek, generous, and a firm friend. If we were to remove the allegory, and not reference the story from the bible we would still end up, with a similar message to the ones the bible preach.

In *The Phoenix* we encounter similar reference that indicate religion. *The* *Phoenix* begins by describing a certain land where it is specifically for the people that are not sinner. The text itself makes a reference to heaven even though it is not stated directly. In the *Phoenix* it does elaborate on the description of heaven and portrays it as an Island; however the essence of being heaven is one that cannot be discarded. This poem also continues by referencing god, and talks about the judgments day. This particular piece of the poem references a portion of the bible, which makes it hard to ignore other context that relate to the bible. The poem has a base upon religion by referring to god, and creating a setting that relates to heaven. Other clues that follow up simply reinforce the argument, that it has allegory.

In the poem the whale we see less direct description of god himself; however the reference to the devil and trickery are referenced explicitly. The poem describes the whale as an animal that attracts savage men that are unwilling, once they are lured the whale submerses into the water drowning all the men. The whale can be seen as an evil animal that collects souls that have been vengeful or sinful. The whale is also a seducer who

In essence the poems either relate or show concrete evidence of the bible if we were to ignore these incidents and became ignorant of the fact that the bible exist, we would still get the same message that the bible portrays. Therefore these allegories can be related to variables that stand for certain chapters or sections of the bible.